

**WHA Press Guidance**  
**Saturday, January 26, 2002**

**RELEASED IN FULL**

**VENEZUELA: BOMB THREAT WARDEN MESSAGE**

**Question: Can you provide any information regarding the bomb threat warning issued by the U.S. Embassy in Venezuela?**

**A: THE U.S. EMBASSY IN CARACAS RELEASED THE FOLLOWING WARDEN MESSAGE TO U.S. CITIZENS ON JANUARY 25:**

**"GIVEN THE FACT THAT AN EXPLOSIVE DEVICE DETONATED ON JANUARY 24, 2002 IN THE LAS MERCEDES AREA NEAR THE INTERSECTION OF AVENIDA MUCUCHIES AND AVENIDA PRINCIPAL, THERE IS THE POSSIBILITY THAT SIMILAR DEVICES COULD BE DETONATED IN THE LAS MERCEDES AREA AND ADJACENT NEIGHBORHOODS. WE URGE ALL U.S. CITIZENS TO UTILIZE CAUTION WHILE VISITING THESE AREAS."**

**Background: The US Embassy is located less than two miles from the explosion. The Mercedes area is frequented by Embassy personnel, expatriots, and other American citizens. At this time, there does not appear to be a link between the Embassy bomb threat on Wednesday (Jan 23) and this threat.**